

PATENT

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The language of claim 1 has been amended to recited "an aqueous fluid replacement solution comprising from about 1 to about 10% w/v of a combination consisting of about 10-20% an inorganic salt of lactic acid and about 90-80% L-arginyl-1(+)lactate...". Claim 14 contains equivalent limitations. The 1-10% limitation of the lactate in the aqueous solution is found at page 19, line 19 of the specification. The combination of 10-20% of the inorganic salt of lactic acid is found in the preferred embodiment discussed at page 16, lines 3-6 (19%) and in example 2 (20%). The balance of the lactate (90-80%) is supported at the same discussions.

The invention claimed herein is a solution for enhancing the energy supply of an exercising athlete and expediting the athlete's recovery from exertion by providing the athlete with lactate in both organic and inorganic form. The advantages of this combination (in so far as the invention is claimed in claim 28) are specifically exemplified.

In light of the narrowing amendments to the pending claims, it is respectfully submitted that the claims fully distinguish the previously cited art. In particular, claim 28 which is specifically directed to the composition of example 2, is not disclosed in the art, and the advantages disclosed highlight the fact that this specific composition is not suggested by the art generally.

Favorable action is requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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